



NEWS RELEASE

DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE

1931 Jefferson Davis Highway, Crystal Mall 3
Arlington, Virginia 22240-5291

Press Release 01-04
October 30, 2000
For External Release

Kauzlarich Earns Presidential Award

Defense Finance and Accounting Service's (DFAS) Director for Information and Technology and Chief Information Officer, C. Vance Kauzlarich, was one of 287 career senior executives recognized with the 2000 Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Service.

Kauzlarich was nominated for the award, given to less than five percent of all career senior executives, for his sustained superior accomplishment in management of U.S. Government programs and for noteworthy achievement of quality and efficiency in the public service, said William S. Cohen, secretary of Defense.

"I see this and similar recognitions of our leaders in prior years as a reflection of the sustained top-notch performance of DFAS as an agency," said Kauzlarich. "We have a tremendous talent pool and those of us in leadership positions are privileged to work with them on a daily basis. As chief information officer for DFAS, my perceived success is really the result of information and technology, infrastructure services, program management, software engineering, supporting industry and DFAS finance and accounting experts working together to provide sustained quality service to our Armed Forces – the folks who deserve the real credit for their service to us all."

Kauzlarich is currently the director for Information and Technology, managing Information Technology expenditures of \$500 million per year. He also serves as the DFAS chief information officer (CIO) and technical advisor to the DFAS Headquarters Systems Integration Directorate. Most recently, he led the Defense Business Evolution (DBE) effort to transition DFAS from a layered bureaucracy to an organization operating under specific business lines.

Kauzlarich's career began in the U.S. Army in 1968, where he served as a medical services corps officer at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. He began his civil service career there as a technical director, supporting Military Health Services System clinical computing and continued working in health management systems through 1991 in architecture, planning and technical integration positions within the Army Medical Department, program management positions with the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs), and management positions within the Department of Defense's Corporate Information Management Program.

He has served as deputy director and then as director, Information Engineering Directorate, Center for Information Management, Defense Information Systems Agency. He led the establishment of the Defense

-MORE-

Information Technology Services Organization - a 3,700 person fee-for-service software development and computing organization servicing the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, and later growing to over 17,000 personnel providing these services to the Defense acquisition, logistics, personnel, and medical communities.

While with the Defense Information Services Agency (DISA), Kauzlarich integrated computing and telecommunications services to form the Defense Information Services Organization (DISO) - a \$2 billion per year, fee-for-service operation. In 1995, he became assistant deputy chief of staff for Operations within DISA WESTHEM, with responsibility for overseeing day-to-day operations of sixteen Defense Megacenters and DISA's wide-area telecommunications services.

In January 1996, he joined the DFAS assistant deputy director for Information Management where he led creation of the DFAS Corporate Information Infrastructure architecture and implementing policies. In February 1998 he was appointed to his current position.

Kauzlarich is a member of the Senior Executive Service. He is the recipient of numerous outstanding performance award for specific contributions to the United States Army, the Tri-Service Medical Information System Program, the Composite Health Care System, the Defense Corporate Information Management Program, implementation of Defense Management Report Decision 918, and formation and operation of the DISA.

###